PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Nobuhiro Sato et al.

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Art Unit: 2655

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Title:

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Docket No.:

35997

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Sir/Madam:

In accordance with Rule 56, applicants are aware of the publications listed in the European Search Report (copy enclosed) and in the enclosed copy of Patent Office Form 1449. A copy of each of the publications is enclosed herewith. The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

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Respectfully submitted,

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May 12, 2004

<u>Jeffrey J.</u> Sopko

Name of Attorney for Applicants

Date

Signature of Attorney

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BY APPLICANT (USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

APPLICANT: Nobuhiro Sato et al.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Filing Date Examiner Document No. Class Subclass Date Name Initial Appropriate Α 5,941,615 08/1999 Ito et al. \mathbf{B} US 08/2001 Jakel 2001/0013744 A1 C D E \mathbf{F} G Η FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Subclass Translation Document No. Date Country Class I 63-53144 03/1988 Japan English Abstract J 42 33 567 A1 08/1993 Germany **English Abstract** K 0 928 720 A2 07/1999 European **English Text** 0 995 635 A2 L 04/2000 European **English Text** M WO 00/34079 06/2000 **PCT English Text** 2001-303839 N 10/2001 Japan **English** Abstract \mathbf{o} 1 239 481 A2 09/2002 European **English Text** OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) P Examiner: Date Considered Initial if reference considered, regardless of whether citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through *Examiner:

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